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OUTSIDE CONTACT REPORT

Document I.D.

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Hemmings, G. P.

file summary

DEA

COPY TO

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Form #2

Special Instructions:

KING or KENNEDY

(Circle one)

OUTSIDE CONTACT REPORT

008140

DATE May 5

TIME

I. Identifying Information:

Name DEA

Telephone

Address

Type of Contact: Telephone
XXX Person

II. Summary of Contact:

Attached find copy of Summary of Hemming files reviewed

at DEA

III. Recommended Follow-up (if any):

Summary included in learning witness book

Signature:

HEMMING FILES -- DEA

SUMMARY

During the course of an investigation of Benton F. Thomas, DEA undercover agents were also able to work up a case against Hemming based on Hemming's presence at three meetings where plans for smuggling cocaine were discussed. Hemming was arrested August 23, 1976 and found guilty of conspiracy to smuggle cocaine and marijuana on November 23, 1977.

Part of Hemming's defense was an attempt to show that Hemming was actually working in cooperation with the DEA, naming Lucien Conein as his contact. Conein documented his contacts with Hemming, which began in May 1975, when Hemming just "showed up" at Conein's office with information on drug-trafficking. During the WerBell-Nardi trial in September 1976, Hemming visited Conein daily while Conein was hospitalized with a stroke. He passed a "resume" to Conein before Conein's departure from Miami, which contained "code words, cryptonyms, and pseudonyms" unknown to Conein, in an effort to make it appear that he had a prior contact relationship with the DEA through Conein. Unfortunately, the Hemming file did not include a copy of the above-referenced "resume."

Investigative reports show that Hemming may have obtained the contraband while on a mission of mercy to Honduras sponsored by Soldier of Fortune magazine, then smuggled the narcotics to the U.S. in a DC-3. The narcotics allegedly came from Colombia.

From the files it appears that Hemming is mainly interested in arms-smuggling, while Thomas was more directly involved in narcotics. (Hemming only attended three of the twenty meetings with Thomas and DEA undercover agents). The undercover agents were also able to obtain background information on Hemming, Thomas and their operations such as the following:

- Hemming claimed to be part of a larger "organization" and have excellent connections in Latin America. He said 99% of the money and equipment going to Colombia was actually used to combat guerilla activity. Since Congress would never condone aid to South American countries earmarked toward the settling of internal conflicts, assistance must therefore be ostensibly provided for narcotic interdiction, but actually used for other purposes. High government officials in South America receive bribes to protect major drug traffickers. The "head man" in a country neighboring Colombia is directly involved in facilitating drug smuggling, according to Hemming. Thomas said the smuggling organization was semi-military in nature and organized along military lines.
- Hemming and Thomas, who met in the Belgian Congo where they both served as soldiers-of-fortune, work for Techpol Security, ostensibly a detective agency which also specializes in wiretapping, reportedly for blackmail purposes. Those with connections to this organization include: Robert Rebozo, Alfredo Durant, a Major Zamora of Miami City PD, and Anselmo Aliegro, long-time associate of Hemming.
- Other associates of Hemming mentioned in the file include Howard K. Davis (noted in an investigative

report of Anthony Acceturo) and Mitchell WerBell.

- Allegedly the source for the narcotics is Carlos Caraballo of Miami.
- Thomas is reportedly an associate of every major smuggler in the South Florida area and an associate of Carl Louis Coppola.

Hemming files also identify two "former DEA agents... now employed by another U.S. government agency" as Gary Mattocks and Thomas Briggs. Other information (source not now recalled) indicates Mattocks had been with the CIA in the early '60's.

GERALD PATRICK HEMMING

FILES OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

MAIN COMPUTER PRINTOUT:

"12/75 Subject suspect of illegal activity under guise of mercy missions to Latin America. Subject rented DC-3 aircraft twice during December 1975. 12/75 GI subject and Benton plan to smuggle 15 tons marijuana from CB to HD via A/C and then to US by ship.
01/76 GI subject present during negotiations between Benton F. Thomas and special agent on 1/9/77, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., re 6 KG cocaine.
06/76 GI per confidential informant, subject used mercy flights to HD to smuggle 5 tons marijuana to U.S.
09/76 GI subject arrested 8/23/76, Miami, Fla., for smuggling cocaine. AP on 8/20/76 Ins/Tecs L/O 176-0813 placed on subject req. GI.
12/77 Subject found guilty by Federal jury, Miami, Fla., 11/23/77 of conspiracy to smuggle cocaine and marijuana. (GI - 75 0285)"

FILE # GI 75-0285 dated 2-1-77 to -----

- Defendant position; status report for Benton F. Thomas. Involved with Benton Franklin Thomas, DOB 9/2/25. Joseph Thomas Olivetti. DOB 11/4/33. for cocaine/marijuana smuggling. Any questions - contact S/A Robert G. Fredericks at FTS 820-4900.
- Teletype 19 Aug 77
Re: Benton Thomas - as per instructions of Ausa Shrouse, Gary Mattocks and Thomas Briggs, former DEA employees and now employed by another U.S. government agency, are needed for trial in the above referenced case. pre-trial scheduled for 8/22/77.
- Teletype 17 Aug 77
Re: Hemming - Shrouse instructs that Lucien Conein will be necessary for trial in the above case.
- Teletype 17 Aug 77
Re: Hemming - Shrouse instructs that S/A John Andrejko will be necessary for trial in the above case.

FILE # GI 75-0285 dated 11-22-75 to 1-30-77

- Memo 6/16/76 from David W. Costa (DEA) to Phillip R. Smith, requesting Conein document all past contacts with Hemming. Advises against future contacts with Hemming.'
- Letter 9/16/76 from Davis W. Costa to US Attorney Robert W. Rust, Re: Hemming - Advises Hemming defendant in DEA conspiracy case then pending trial. Advises Conein an employee of DEA's office of intelligence at Washington, DC. Conein recently in Miami under subpoena as a defense witness in the Mitchell Werbell trial. Conein became ill during the trial and was hospitalized as reflected in attached documents, defendant Hemming visited Conein while he was in the hospital. As Mr. Conein was boarding a flight to return to Washington, defendant Hemming approached him and gave him a document which appears to be a resume of Hemming's activities over the past several years.

Conein states that receipt of the document was a complete surprise to him.

AUSA Ferguson advised DEA 9/16/76 that Hemming's defense counsel has stated that Hemming has been cooperating with Conein and this alleged cooperation will be a part of Hemming defense.

-- Affidavit of Lucien Conein re: Hemming .

From March 74 to August 74, Conein acting Chief of Special Operations and Field Support Staff, Office of Intelligence, DEA.

Hemming never employed by Special Operations and Field Support Staff of Office of Intelligence, DEA. Conein never authorized funds or signed vouchers to pay Hemming. Never solicited information or gave Hemming missions, tasks, etc.

May 1975 Hemming appeared at DEA Headquarters. Conein brought him to his office, where he learned Hemming wanted to give some information on narcotic drug trafficking. Wanted to discuss Miami-Caribbean area. SA Briggs, brought in for Hemming debriefing. Hemming's appearance at DEA at this time unsolicited by Conein or staff.

Conein did not see or talk to Hemming again until after hospitalization in Miami's VA Hospital for stroke on September 3, 1976. Everyday after hospitalization Conein visited by Hemming. Told Conein on 9/4/76 that Werbell found not guilty. Told Conein on 9/5 that WerBell returned to Georgia and said that WerBell said he was not going to get himself involved in any other adventures.

On 9/6 Hemming asked how his brother could apply for a position with DEA. Conein said he would have to apply through the Miami regional office. Asked GPH to write his brother's name and address in his address book. Hemming asked if he had read the latest Soldier of Fortune magazine.

Visits on 9/7 and 9/8 discussed Soldier of Fortune.

On 9/9/76 Mattocks took Conein to airport for trip to Washington. Hemming came up to him and gave him an envelope saying, "Here's a resume for you." Conein surprised Hemming knew time of his departure. Conein thanked him, assuming the resume pertained to his brother.

Conein read resume, doesn't understand why it was given to him. Contains code words, crytponyms, pseudonyms used by Hemming which are unfamiliar, never used by Conein's staff, not part of intelligence reports submitted to Special Operations and Field Support staff of Office of Intelligence from March 74 to August 76 when staff function abolished. (file did not include a copy of the Hemming "resume").

- Copy of page from address book with name of Robert Hemming.
- Letter 9/16/76 to "Colonel" from Hemming re: application to DEA by Robert Hemming.
- Internal memo 9/17/76 from Irvin C. Swank to David Costa re: Hemming passport - current passport PPT # E1904724 issued 9/23/74 Miami. Valid thru 9/22/74. Previous passport #G234-934, expired March 13, 1971.

- Passport application reveals: Travel plans to depart 9/29/74 to Dominican Republic and Bahamas for 14 days on business. No information re: previous trips. Plans other trips abroad within one year.
- DEA case report of Robert G. Fredericks. 8/9/76. Meeting at Stumpy's Cocktail Lounge 1/7/76 with Thomas and DEA agents. Discussion of delivery of cocaine and marijuana. Meeting 1/9 with Thomas and DEA, plus Hemming. Discussed delivery of cocaine. Meeting 1/13/76 with SA's Williams, Fredericks with Benton Thomas and Hemming. Thomas said Hemming close associate in smuggling operation. Meeting 1/19/76 with Herbert Williams, Fredericks meet Thomas at Mama Lou's Restaurant. Meetings in March not attended by Hemming except on 3/31. Thomas and Hemming meet SA's Frederick and Armando Marin to discuss delivery of 3 KG's cocaine, 25 tons marijuana. Meetings from March to August 1976 not attended by Hemming except 8/23/76 in meeting with Thomas, Olivetti, Jack Dean Cline, when all were arrested. 19 meetings total between Thomas and SA's.
- Miscellaneous:
Source of supply for Benton Thomas - Carlos Caraballo.
- Investigative report on Benton Thomas et al 7/23/76 - Michael Rebozo name mentioned (nephew of Bebe) Confidential informant stated that about 1977 he, Mike Malloy and Rebozo terminated dealings with Robert Caivano (suicide 5/26/74) because Caivano had become a "rip-off artist" involving people in these deals who carried guns and threatened violence should anything go wrong. Bill Burgin, Dade County School Investigator feels Rebozo still engaging in some illegal activity. Appears at times with unusual large sums of cash.

Richbourg Fisheries a "Trafficante operation" according to Sgt Mike Jones, Gainsville, P.D. Fish storage business at Cedar Key, Fla. Formerly owned by Frank Merger.

Report 6/15/76 by D.L. Greagor (Colorado)
During mercy mission to Honduras subsequent to 9/18/74 hurricane, members of Parachute Medical Rescue Service PMRS sponsored by Soldier of Fortune magazine under the direction of Hemming and George Speakman. Missions to parachute personnel into devastated areas of Honduras in order to provide medical attention to people in these inaccessible areas.

Source advised G/S Mel B. Ashton and SA D.L. Greagor that Hemming, Speakman, Gilmore Simms, pilot of DC-3 that made drop actually had little to do with performing mission. Speakman, Simms, Hemming disappeared with DC-3 for approximately 5 days. These subjects closely associated with Armando Bolet-Suarez. Dr. John Peters, Norwood, Colorado believed to be with others for several days. Believed to have smuggled approximately 5 tons of marijuana into the U.S.

Report 4/8/76 by Fredericks.
Meeting 4/5/76 between SA's Fredericks, A. Marin and Thomas. Fredericks

told Thomas that he was apprehensive about meeting with Hemming because of April 76 Argosy magazine article on Hemming and Miami Herald Tropic Section April 4, 1976 with photo. Notriety could bring attention and compromise transaction. Thomas said he was upset about HEmming's behavior; will keep Hemming in background. Will get another captain for vessel. Hemming knew all about the plan. Hemming recently conned someone out of money as an advance for a book, which resulted in the publicity.

Report 4/6/76 by Fredericks.

Meeting 3/31/76 with Hemming, Thomas, Fredericks, Marin, unidentified male. Hemming said smuggling organization of which he and Thomas were members, concerned about security of the operation.

Hemming making arrangements to see boat in Panama, which will be used as collateral for \$20,000 loan from Fredericks to Thomas. Hemming said he didn't want boat identified becasue Fed agents placed transponders on bottoms of suspect vessels. Hemming didn't feel it was warranted for Fredericks and Marin to see boat. Hemming said boat belonged to "organization". Stressed main consideration for all transactions was security. People "down south" would wait until all details worked out before load would be delivered. Captain had decided job offer involving activities in Africa in order to handle this losd for Thomas and his associates. Hemming warned Thomas against saying too much. Added that at least 50% of crew would be "their people" -- that way they had greater control.

Fredericks asked Hemming how he could be sure load wouldn't be seized in S. America. Hemming replied that 99% of money and equipment going to Colombia actually used to combat guerilla activity. Since Congress would never condone aid to S. American countries earmarked toward settling of internal conflicts, assistance must therefore be ostensibly provided for narcotic interdiction, but actually used for other purposes. Hemming said high government officials in South America receive bribes to protect major drug traffickers. Said that "head man in the country neighboring Colombia is directly involved in facilitating drug smuggling. S. American authorities compiling statistics to please U.S. authorities by arresting "free-lance operators" and seizing their loads. Well connected groups have nothing to fear from L. American authorities. Fredericks inquired as to quality of Hemming's contacts in Latin American government. Hemming replied that they were the best possible. Thomas added that Hemming's connections were good due to Hemming's extensive experience in S. America.

Hemming said it would be strictly boat operation. Dummy corporation could be set up to avoid problems if trouble arose and ties between Marin, Frederciks, and Thomas' \$20,000 loan were found. Delivery time 30 days after payment of \$20,000. Hemming refused to allow them to meet captain but would look into other ways to reassure Fredericks that plans were going correctly.

Report 4/6/76

Meeting 3/26/76 with Fredericks, Williams. Thomas having difficulty with delivery in \$80,000 plan. Had a 57 ft vessel in Panama. Boat would hLeave Panama fo pick-up 25 tons of marijuana. Needed \$20,000 additional to pay captain. Boat worth \$65,000. For extra \$20,000 from Williams, Thomas would put boat up as collateral. Would pick up at least 3 KG's of cocaine for Williams. The boat would bring the

load to a certain point; Thomas would then retrieve cocaine and smuggle it into U.S. for Williams.

Thomas arranging for contract to take aerial photographs over Latin America. With legitimate business front, would have no difficulty obtaining necessary State Department visas to travel extensively and fly B-23 without arousing official curiouosity. SA's believe Costa Rican contact is Morris Clinton Henson, owner of "Vagabond" yacht.

-- Report 4/8/76 p. 6 of 96

Hemming information NADDIS #310145

WWM; DO B 03/01/37; 6'6"; 232 lbs

1121 Jann Ave. Opa Locka, Fla. FH #100 629 E; Miami PD #77255; Key West PD #6221

Alleged to be soldier of fortune and arms smuggler; associate of Benton Thomas; employed by Techpol Security; licensed to carry firearms.

Techpol Security: NADDIS #459914

801 Madrid Suite 105

Coral Gables, FL Tel 305/443-9681

446-8379

Employer of Hemming and Thomas

-- Meetings

1/13/76 Thomas, Williams, Fredericks

p. 77v

Dec. 1975 to date

Hemming proto-type "soldier of fortune" has appeared with Thomas at under-cover meetings with DEA agents on 1/13, 1/19/76. Actively involved with Thomas in smuggling venture; believed to be Thomas' associate in running arms and ammunition out of U.S. (p. 89) Thomas known associate of Coppola and alleged associate with every major amuggler in South Florida area. Has admitted to DEA under-cover agents that he utiliae his B-25 and boat for smuggling ventures. In addition, believed he and Hemming smugle arms out of US. (Coppola = Carl Louis Coppola)

-- Miscellaneous:

Bob Carswell - WM - resides in Miami, owners of vessel "Empress III" NADDIS 36-532 for delivery of marijuana to U.S. from Colombia.

-- Investigative report 1/21/76 by Fredericks

Re: Thomas

Discussion at meeting 1/13/76. Said Thomas' smuggling organization was semi-military in nature and organized along military lines. Mentioned Jerry Hemming, who Thomas said was a close associate. He met Hemming in Belgian Congo, when both involved in mercenary activities. Gave business card for Texas Aerial Surveys, Inc.

-- Investigative Report 2/19/76 by Williams

Re: Thomas

Thomas stated Techpol is a detective agency that specializes in personal bodyguard activities for those who need this type of protection. Indicated that telephone wire intercepts could be made available to U/C agents if needed.

Phone # 305/763-2499 published to June Thomas, wife of Benton.

Search of list of phone calls revealed 7 telephone calls to 305/446-8379 published to Anselmo Aliegro and Roberto Rebozo, 801 Madrid St., Coral Gables, FL.

Techpol detective agency owned by Roberto Rebozo and Miami attorney Alfredo Durant, specializing in bodyguard activities and special wiretaps, according to a DEA source. Special wiretaps allegedly used to blackmail participants involved in conversation. Source said Eagle Trucking, 290 S W 8th ST, Suite 304, Miami, associated with Techpol, but dummy corporation. Eagle formerly Parabellum Corporation located at 305 Jose Marti Hdg, 290 S W 8th St, Miami. Hemming allegedly manager of Eagle Trucking. A City of Miami Police Department Major somewhat connected to Techpol, according to source. Major's name is Zamora - alleged owner of one or 2 other detective agencies. Associates of Techpol frequent Centro Vasco lounge on 2235 S W 8th St, Miami, FL

-- Miscellaneous

Carlos Caraballo
1395 S W 70 Ave Called 3 times
Miami Tel. 261-9882

C & C International
2439 N W 33 Ave Called 10 times
Miami
Tel 638-7988

FROM PALMER NOTES:

FILE GF AS - 76 - 800 1

-- Letter dated April 18, 1977 to Gerald Patrick Hemming, 1121 Jann Ave, Opa Locka, FL 33054 in reference to 1/13/77 FOIA/Privacy Act request. No record of information requested found in DEA central indices.

-- Report of Investigation 9/13/76 Anthony Acceturo
#GF G I 76-4072

Report re: Status of Olympic Trade Lines investigation
Details:

Howard K. Davis is currently a pilot for Olympic. Davis is a known drug suspect and was arrested in 1963 for neutrality violations with para-military Cubans at Key West, FL

Synopsis: Report deals with information collected activities of suspects associated with Olympic Aviation Co, a subsidiary of Olympic Trade Lines and the Benton Thomas and Mitchell WerBell investigations.

It is interesting to note that SGI 5-0115 and Howard K. Davis were integral parts of the Benton Thomas conspiracy investigation. Also, Howard K. Davis was arrested with Gerald Hemming, co-defendant with Benton Thomas, in Key West in 1963 for neutrality violations. The association between Coppola, Thomas, Caivano and Hemming is documented in Miami RIU M.O.R. on Benton Thomas, et al, GI 75-0285

Hemming is past associate of Mitchell WerBell, III and was recently summoned by the defense in the WerBell-Nardi trial.